## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLIC	ANTS: Cirjak, L.M., et al.	) )	PATENT APPLICATION CONFIRMATION NO.:
APPLICATION NO.:		)	GROUP ART UNIT:
	Navarahan 25, 0000	)	
FILED:	November 25, 2003	)	EXAMINER:
FOR:	Fluid Bed Process for the Aceto, it ylation of Ethylene in the Production of Vinyl Acetate	)	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: BP 7339.06
Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 Sir:			iter — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT** 

ANY ADDITIONAL FEES REQUIRED CHARGE TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 01-0528

## PRELIMINARY COMMENTS

This is a Preliminary Amendment to a continuation of Application No. 09/981,454 filed October 17, 2001. The '454 Application was subject to an appeal to the Board of Interferences and Patent Appeals. A copy of the decision in that appeal is attached hereto. The '454 Application was itself a continuation of Application No. 08/703,805 filed August 27, 1996, which was also the subject of an appeal to the Board of Interferences and Patent Appeals. A copy the decision in that appeal is attached hereto.

This Preliminary Amendment presents claims of differing scope from the appealed claims that Applicants believe are patentable and in condition for allowance.